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November 11, 2002

Shahnam J. Sharareh

United States Department of Commerce
United States Patent & Trademark Office
Organization: TC 1600 - Bldg./Room CMI
Washington, D.C. 20231

Application Number: 09/676/670

Applicant: Scherr, George H.

Art Unit: 1617

Title: Alginate Foam Compositions

This Application is a CIP of
09/301,228 04/29/1999 ABN

Examiner: Dr. Shahnam Sharareh

Dear Dr. Sharareh:

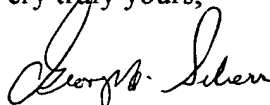
This will acknowledge with appreciation your office action dated 10/22/2002 (paper # 6) and the comments and remarks made therein are appreciated.

CANCELING 91-104
I withdraw claims 20-76 inclusive and have added, attached herein, claims 105 to 149 inclusive.

Where my new claims reference claims that have been allowed by the examiner (Claims 77-90), I have cited those claims in order to ensure an understanding of the relationship as expressed in my new claims 105 to 149.

I believe that the new claims appended hereto overcome the objections of the examiner.

Very truly yours,



George H. Scherr, Ph.D.

GHS/jj

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Claims 105-149

105. The process of claim 77 in which the composition of (V) is sterilized.

106. The process of claim 105 in which the medicinal agent is a suspension of viable cells added to the sterilized composite mixture.

107. The process of claim 106 in which the composite mixture is poured onto a fibrous cloth contained in or on a tray, which fibrous cloth will become affixed to the alginate composition after the aqueous component of said composite mixture has evaporated.

108. The process of claim 106 in which the viable cells are mast cells.

109. The composition of claim 106 in which the viable cells are skin tissue cells.

110. The process of claim 109 wherein the effervescent compound is selected from a group consisting of the alkali metal carbonates.

111. The process of claim 110 wherein said effervescent compound is sodium carbonate.

112. The process of claim 106 wherein said effervescent compound is sodium bicarbonate.

113. The process of 106 wherein said water soluble acid is selected from the group consisting of acetic, lactic, malic, gluconic, hydrochloric, and ascorbic acids.

114. The process of claim 107 in which the fibrous cloth is selected from cloths prepared from cotton, polyester, wool, nylon, rayon, or mixtures thereof.

115. The process of claim 106 wherein said water-soluble alginate is selected from a group consisting of ammonium, magnesium, potassium, sodium salts of alginate, or mixtures thereof.

116. The process of claim 106 wherein said di- or trivalent cation is selected from a metal ion derived from salts selected from the group consisting of alkaline earth metal salts, alkali metal salts, transition metal salts, and mixtures thereof.

117. The process of claim 106 wherein said metal cation is selected from the group consisting of calcium, barium, copper, magnesium, iron, zinc, aluminum, manganese, silver, strontium, and mixtures thereof.

118. The process of claim 106 wherein said medicament is selected from the group consisting of collagen, maltodextrin, antibiotics, antibacterial agents, anti-inflammatory agents, ascorbic acid, amino acids, and mixtures thereof.

119. The process of claim 106 wherein said plasticizer is selected from a group consisting of glycerin, propylene glycol, ethylene glycol, and polyethylene glycol or mixtures thereof.

120. The process of claim 106 wherein said surface active agent is selected from a group consisting of polyoxyethylene sorbitan monolaurate, polyoxyethylene sorbitan monopalmitate, polyoxyethylene sorbitan monooleate, polyoxyethylene sorbitan trioleate, polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block polymer, or a mixture thereof.

121. The process of claim 106 where in the di-or trivalent cation metal salt complexing the water soluble alginate is calcium sulphate.

122. The process of claim 106 wherein the di-or trivalent cation metal salt complexing the water soluble alginate is calcium chloride.

123. The process of claim 106 wherein the di-or trivalent cation metal salt complexing the water soluble alginate is calcium acetate.

124. A water-insoluble alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing viable cells.

125. A water-insoluble alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing a medicinal agent.

126. A water-insoluble calcium alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing a medicinal agent.

127. A water-insoluble barium alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing a medicinal agent.

128. A water-insoluble copper alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing a medicinal agent.

129. A water-insoluble magnesium alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing a medicinal agent.

130. A water-insoluble iron alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing a medicinal agent.

131. A water-insoluble zinc alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing a medicinal agent.

132. A water-insoluble aluminum alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing a medicinal agent.

133. A water-insoluble manganese alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing a medicinal agent.

134. A water-insoluble silver alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing a medicinal agent.

135. A water-insoluble strontium alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing a medicinal agent.

136. A water-insoluble calcium alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing collagen.

137. A water-insoluble calcium alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing maltodextrin.

138. A water-insoluble calcium alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing antibiotics.

139. A water-insoluble calcium alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing an antibacterial agent.

140. A water-insoluble calcium alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing anti-inflammatory agents.

141. A water-insoluble calcium alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing ascorbic acid.

142. A water-insoluble calcium alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing amino acids.

143. A water-insoluble silver alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing collagen.

144. A water-insoluble silver alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing maltodextrin.

145. A water-insoluble silver alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing antibiotics.

146. A water-insoluble silver alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing antibacterial agents.

147. A water-insoluble silver alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing anti-inflammatory agents.

148. A water-insoluble silver alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing ascorbic acid.

149. A water-insoluble silver alginate sponge or foam wound dressing containing amino acids.